

IAEA Board of Governors – 9 September 2024 Agenda item 4 Nuclear security STATEMENT BY SWITZERLAND

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Switzerland thanks the Director General for his report and DDG Evrard for her introductory remarks. I would like to highlight four points:

First, Switzerland reaffirms its strong support for the Agency's indispensable role in promoting international cooperation in nuclear security. The Agency provides valuable assistance for Member States to implement robust national security measures based on international standards. We commend the organization of a large number of conferences, technical meetings, workshops, trainings, review missions, as well as the outreach efforts undertaken, in accordance with last year's Nuclear Security Resolution (GC(67)RES/8).

Second, Switzerland would like to highlight the value of IPPAS, INSServ and INSSP missions. We hosted an IPPAS Follow-up mission last year which confirmed that Switzerland has a strong nuclear security regime. We are now in the process of designing and implementing measures to address the Mission's findings, with a view to maintaining and continually improving our security standards. Measures concerning radioactive materials have been integrated into our national Action Plan to strengthen RADIological Security and Safety (RADISS), which we recently decided to extend until 2028. Such missions have proven to be very valuable, and we encourage all Member States, independent of the size of their nuclear program, to participate.

Mr Chair,

Third, last year's inauguration of the Nuclear Security Training and Demonstration Centre (NSTDC) in Seibersdorf was a major achievement and Switzerland wants to continue its support for this project. I am very glad to announce an additional contribution of 500.000 Euros for the NSTDC. With its state-of-the-art technical equipment and practical training, the center helps strengthen nuclear security regimes and we encourage Member States to make use of the center for the training of their personnel.

Fourth, we want to praise the results of the International Conference on Nuclear Security (ICONS) 2024. ICONS is the most important global event

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for the engagement of both high-level policy makers and practitioners in the nuclear security field. While we regret that no Ministerial Declaration could be agreed upon, the 2024 edition was nevertheless a huge success. The wide, active participation demonstrates a strong global commitment to continue working on scientific and technical cooperation for enhanced nuclear security.

Thank you.